



OUTREACH NOTICE

METEOROLOGIST (GS-1340-9/11) OR ECOLOGIST (GS-0408-9/11)

USDA FOREST SERVICE NORTHERN RESEARCH STATION

About the Position

The Northern Research Station is announcing an upcoming vacancy for a *Meteorologist (GS-1340-9/11) or Ecologist (GS-0408-9/11)* position that will provide science and science support to the Center for Research on Ecosystem Change in the Northern Research Station. The position is a permanent appointment with a full-time tour of duty, stationed in Grand Rapids, MN.

Job Description

The primary duty will be to operate, maintain, troubleshoot, summarize data and publish papers on the eddy covariance system located at the Bog Lake peatland on the Marcell Experimental Forest. Secondary duties will include support and cooperation with Forest Service and collaborating scientists from universities and other agencies. The individual will supervise and participate in the installation and maintenance of various studies and collection of data including soil, hydrological, and geological data, gas flux and biogeochemical data, and plant data. The individual will determine ecosystem carbon fluxes using gas flux measurements, belowground measurements, climate data and eddy covariance technology. The individual will perform or supervise laboratory preparation of field samples and field data collection. They will insure the integrity of data for a variety of studies by following approved QA/QC procedures. They will summarize and analyze data using a variety of statistical techniques, including ANOVA, regression, and software, including SAS, and Sigma-Plot. The individual will assist scientists in the preparation of manuscripts, proposals, study plans and presentations. They will coordinate the work of technicians, temporary employees, and graduate students and assist with technology transfer including presentations, workshops, and demonstrations.

Knowledge Required

Substantial knowledge of the technical aspects of measuring carbon fluxes with eddy covariance techniques. Ability to design and organize project objectives and select alternative work processes. The individual must have the ability to train and supervise field crews and laboratory staffs, follow safety and health procedures, and write technical reports and manuscripts. Knowledge of computer functions related to data input, retrieval, analysis of data, and management of resulting datasets is required. The individual must have the ability to operate motor vehicles and other motorized equipment, and to use hand tools and forestry and laboratory instruments.

Other Information of Interest

- The area of consideration is Government-wide and External DEMO
- One position will be advertised
- Work will include overnight travel
- Basic entry qualifications for this series are a degree in meteorology, ecology,

atmospheric sciences, plant physiology, hydrology, soil science, biology, agriculture, natural resource management, chemistry, or related disciplines appropriate to the position, or a combination of education and experience (courses equivalent to a major, plus appropriate experience or additional education).

- In addition to meeting the basic entry qualifications, applicants must have specialized experience and/or 2 years of progressively higher level graduate education leading to a master's or equivalent degree
- Experience with SAS
- Experience with eddy covariance systems
- Good written and verbal communication skills are essential
- An ability to work both independently and in a team setting is necessary
- United States citizenship required

The Research Environment

The focus of the research program in Grand Rapids is on 1) understanding ecosystem processes and functions at multiple scales; 2) predicting ecosystem responses to disturbance and change; 3) assessing management approaches to address factors that change ecosystems; and 4) evaluating long-term responses to change and management utilizing our experimental forest. We manage the Marcell Experimental Forest, a site of long-term collection of data on hydrology, water chemistry, soil, climate and ecosystem biogeochemical fluxes in upland/peatland watersheds in northern Minnesota.

The Grand Rapids Community

The community of Grand Rapids is a city of about 8,000 located in the north-central part of Minnesota in the heart of lake country. Grand Rapids has a rich history in logging, iron mining, and year-around recreation. There are more than a million acres of forests and over a thousand lakes in the Grand Rapids area. The city is a regional center for education, recreation, commerce, and culture. The Reif Center for the Performing Arts and the Itasca Community College contribute greatly to the cultural and educational opportunities within the community. The Forestry Sciences Laboratory is located on the campus of the Itasca Community College and the University of Minnesota's North Central Research and Outreach Center. The Chippewa and Superior National Forests are nearby, as are numerous State and County forests. A Regional Office for the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources is located in Grand Rapids as well as production facilities and land management offices for the UPM Blandin Paper Company. The Duluth, Hibbing, and Bemidji airports serve the community with connections to Minneapolis. Grand Rapids is a full service community with an abundance of medical, dental, and legal services. Housing for either renting or buying in a broad range of price categories is readily available. For more information about Grand Rapids see <http://www.visitgrandrapids.com>.

To Express Interest

To learn more about the job duties or other questions about the position, contact Randy Kolka at (218) 326-7115 (e-mail: rkolka@fs.fed.us)

If you are interested in this position, please fill out the enclosed outreach notice. Once the position is advertised in USAJOBS, we will notify you by email.

Candidates will be considered without discrimination for any non-merit reason such as race, color, religion, sex, national origin, politics, marital status, physical handicap, age or membership in any employee organization. The

USDA is an Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer.

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APPLICANT REPLY FORM

If you are interested in this position, please complete and submit this form to **Randy Kolka**, Team Leader, Grand Rapids, MN, **rkolka@fs.fed.us**; **FAX 218-326-7123**. This will help us determine the level of interest of prospective candidates and establish the area of consideration. **Please respond by April 15, 2015.**

Title of Outreach Position: **Meteorologist or Ecologist**

Name:

Email Address:

Mailing Address:

Telephone Number: Work: Home:

Agency Employed with: ☐ USFS ☐ Other (Please list):

Type of appointment currently under (please check one):

☐ Permanent ☐ Temporary ☐ Term ☐ Other (Please list):

Current Region/Forest/District:

Current Series and Grade:

Current Position/Title:

If not a current permanent (career or career conditional) employee, are you eligible to be hired under any of the following special authorities:

- ☐ Persons with Disabilities
- ☐ Veterans Recruitment Appointment
- ☐ Disabled Veteran w/30% Compensable Disability
- ☐ Veteran Employment Opportunities Act of 1998
- ☐ Former Peace Corp Volunteer
- ☐ Student Career Experience Program
- ☐ Other (explain):

How did you hear of this position?

THANK YOU FOR YOUR INTEREST IN OUR VACANCY